Senate Research Committee Meeting
Monday, November 15 at 3:00 PM
315 Dahlberg Hall

Attendees: Albertha Barrett, Tim Bartness, Dan Benardot, Laura Burtle, Robert Curry, John Decker, Dabney Dixon, Bill Kahnweiler, Chris Henrich, June Houston (Minutes), Beth Jones, Amy Lederberg, Mike Metzler, Jennifer Patico, Don Reitzes, Mary Ann Romski, Rose Sevcik (Chair), Andrey Shilnikov, Winnie Tsang-Kosma (Staff Rep.), Ben Williams (Student Rep.) and Linda Nelson (Guest)

1. Rose Sevcik, Chair opened the meeting at 3:00 PM

2. October 2010 minutes approved.

3. Linda Nelson presented Georgia State University’s Diversity Strategic Plan for 2010-2015. Copies of the draft plan were distributed. Linda’s overview was on the university’s purpose, process and plan concerning diversity. She gave a brief framework of what diversity would mean to GSU and what the plan would deliver, as well as the foundation for such a plan. The committee was briefed on defining diversity by Federal protected categories and other additional categories already stated in the draft. Linda asked the committee to email any other categories they thought should be included. The plan consisted of three (3) goals. Goal 1 would address faculty diversity, goal 2 student diversity and goal 3 would address staff. Linda stated this plan would consist of input and approval of the university population. She stated the Provost has appointed a taskforce to oversee the implementation. Linda has spoken with the colleges for input which would definitely be aligned with diversity.

Questions & comments from the committee regarding the Plan
a) Rose asked whether this plan would be considered in the University’s Strategic Plan. Linda stated the diversity plan will be an addendum and since it would require a vote, it would be discussed within the strategic plan. Rose stated that the plan should target faculty with fellowships and faculty with grants for graduate training.

b) Amy stated since she is working with Linda on the faculty goal, especially as it relates to research and grants that item 6 of the draft on page 6 which says “emphasize and publicize grants that target diverse faculty and/or diverse issues” that the wording should be changed as this dealt with only a narrow group and really should be embedded in the mentoring piece in item 5 on page 6 of the plan.

c) Mary Ann asked whether people with disabilities would be addressed as well as faculty using human subjects. She stated because of location in Atlanta GSU could recruit a more diverse group.

d) It was also noted that the first page was “limited” quoting only Dr. Becker. Linda stated she realized that it was limited and she was going to meet with Chandler Brown who writes most of Dr. Becker’s speeches and pull from them all statements he has made regarding diversity.

e) The committee also stated since the plan had a lot of student involvement that their names should also be listed in the Plan.

Linda stated that the comments were noteworthy and she would appreciate more feedback from this committee via email as there was still much work to be done on the Plan.
4. The next item on the agenda was the Ad Hoc Committee on Research Center Review by Mary Ann Romski. Mary Ann reported the committee is still working on a document. They did not have a draft at this meeting but expect to have one at the next Senate meeting in December. Mary Ann says she has been meeting with Robin who has given suggestions which will be incorporated in the draft.

5. Amy Lederberg reported that the “Proposal Express” is delayed but should be ready for testing in January 2011. She will also ask for input from the Senate Research Committee. One of the components includes “key words”. She stated a key word could be entered which would describe the nature of the grant being submitted. One of the functions for key words would assist in report printing, two key words could characterize an individual’s research work and three identify International research. This would be done at the initiation of the proposal but would follow the award later. Amy will send out a list of key words to the committee to determine which words to use. This would give her more insight.

6. Amy reported that the National Science Foundation has a requirement that researchers submit a two-page document on how their data will be managed, stored and accessed. The question is how to address this issue. Amy stated the Deans had suggested having a committee research the matter. She stated expert speakers on data management could be brought in to discuss implementation. Tim Bartness asked whether there was a brochure on “Best Practices”. Albertha agreed to check into securing this information on Best Practices for university data management.

7. Albertha reported that may PIs, Chairs and Directors had received an email regarding Phase 2 of PeopleSoft which deals with submitting proposals on line and Post Awards and why some sponsors had not received invoices. Albertha stated that there has been a delay with invoicing sponsors but if an invoice is needed, a call should be made to Research Administration and an invoice will be provided. Regular invoicing with the new Phase 2 People Soft System will begin in December.

8. Albertha reported to the Senate Research Committee that Robin has approved the creation of two new positions in OSP one of which would handle assisting with International grants and applications thereof and one position to handle compliance contracts and the expedition of the contracts.

9. No new business or announcements.

Next meeting: December 13 at 3:00 PM
Room 1000 Urban Life